

# ILLUSTRATED SPORTING THEATRICAL NEWS

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PRICE TWO PENCE.

## HORSE WARRANTY.

CHAPMAN v. BACON.—This was a case in dispute as to the "warranty" of a horse, the facts elicited being as follows:—Messrs. Matthews and Moir conducted the case for the plaintiff, while Mr. Cave appeared for the defendant.—The plaintiff, who was a large horse dealer at Cheltenham, had purchased a grey mare of the defendant, who was a farmer and horse breeder in Yorkshire, for £90, taking at the time the following warranty:—"Mr. Chapman has this day bought of me a grey mare for £90, warranted sound, free from vice, no crib biter, roarer, or wind sucker." Upon the arrival of the mare at the plaintiff's stables she was placed in a loose box with an iron manger, and trained for a hunter. The plaintiff afterwards sold her to Colonel Kingscote as a hunter for the Prince of Wales. She hurt her leg as Colonel Kingscote was riding her, and she was then put into a stall with a wooden manger, and then it was discovered that she was a "crib biter." Colonel Kingscote returned the mare to the plaintiff, who sent information to the defendant, who wrote to the plaintiff stating that he had never known her guilty of this vice, although he had bred her. The parties corresponded for some time on the subject, and ultimately she was put up for sale by auction, and brought £90 6s, the defendant himself purchasing her. The sum now sought to be recovered was £17 11s. 9d., being the amount of keep and expenses. The only question now was whether or not the mare was an "accomplished" crib biter, as they expressed themselves. When horses were lying idle they got into a habit of crib biting for amusement. The plaintiff's groom saw some symptoms of the vice before the sale to Colonel Kingscote, but did not tell his master. After her return from Colonel Kingscote's she was put into a stall with a wooden manger, and then the vice was apparent. Sometimes a horse would not crib bite before a stranger, or when placed in a fresh stable.—Colonel Kingscote, Master of the Horse to the Prince of Wales, stated that he had purchased the mare of the plaintiff. She was put in a loose box, where there was nothing for her to lay hold of. He rode her the next day, when she struck her leg, and was laid up for some days. She was then placed in a stall, in consequence of something his groom told him he went to the stable and saw the mare "crib bite." He returned her at once to the plaintiff. She did not appear to be a novice beginner. She was a high spirited mare, and very nervous.—The case of the defendant was that the mare had never been known to bite her crib during the time she was in his possession, and that she was a high bred spirited mare, who had never been out of his possession.—Witnesses were called for the defence.—The jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

## MR. GEORGE DAWSON ON ATHLETIC SPORTS.

At a meeting held in Birmingham on Monday last it was resolved to establish a gymnasium on a large scale. Mr. George Dawson was one of the speakers, and said some years back, among some classes in the country, there was a feeling that if they looked after men's souls, they should take very little care for their bodies. That, they said, was a mere sublimity matter—it was hardly worth while to trouble themselves about it. Then they had all that talk about the blessings of affliction, by which they meant their own little miserable indispositions and illnesses, not considering the real burdens of life, thinking of no lost love, no broken friendship, and all the great troubles incidental to this short life of ours. Preachers went on drivelling about the true blessings of affliction, until at last a man came to look upon illness as almost a matter of necessity for himself. Now, happily, we came to understand this—the greater part of the time a man lost in illness was owing to his own fault. It was his own blame in the majority of cases. In the large number of cases the illness was the result either of wilful violation of known laws, or of the ignorance of those laws. There were twelve hours in the day during which a man might work; and the sooner they attended to the observance of those conditions, the sooner they should be able to employ those whole twelve hours during which a man should be able to work. They must see what a great blessing it was to have a sound mind in a sound body. They found it was very hard for a man to be very good when he was sick; acquaintance with sick beds made known to a man the

lower form of human nature—his meanness, his littleness. Those who had most to do with sick people knew that it was a great tax upon human charity to have them sometimes pouring out by the hour their complaints, and telling them what a bad night they had had. There were many who said a walk in the country was good for health. But a walk in the country was not all they wanted. They might go into the country crooked, have out their walk and come back as crooked as they went. That would not regulate the human figure, or give it that development essential to life and sound health. Let them remember that young men as a rule did not much care for the scenery of the country. A young man would rather at any time go into a gymnasium for halibut exercise than he would take a walk amidst the loveliest scenery in the country. (That was all very well for staid men

like themselves, but those in the first bloom of manly vigour wanted something else. To provide a gymnasium for meeting the want they had recognised, he believed the only way open was to adopt the principle of association. He had had an experimental acquaintance with the matter, having in his youth practised athletic sports; and he attributed to that his comparative freedom from illness, a good big chest, with plenty of steam in it, and one of the greatest blessings God could give a man—unbroken courage. For physical courage was a result of athletic exercises. It was hard to be a brave man and a sick man; to be a cheerful man, and at the same time a dyspeptic man. It was better that they should promote those athletic sports, if they were to make their men well-formed—if they were to make them a better shape; for they might depend upon it that the more handsome men they had so would they diminish the danger of those few who were handsome.

## THE AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB.

The Amateur Athletic Club will hold their first annual champion games on the day immediately preceding the University boat race, on some ground in London. The programme will probably consist of the following events:—Flat Races: 100 yards running, quarter mile do., one mile do., half mile do., four miles do.; seven miles walking; 120 yards hurdle race, over ten flights of hurdles, 30 in high; high running jump; long running jump; high pole jump; putting the weight (16lb weight); throwing the hammer (16lb weight). The entrance fee for each of these competitions will be one guinea. All entries for the competitions must be made in writing to C. G. Fym, Esq., 83 St. George's-road, Warwick-square, S.W., at least a fortnight before the day of meeting. The competitions will be open to any gentleman amateurs, and the club lays down the following rule, which will be strictly enforced:—"That no gentleman who has ever run in any open race or handicap can enter for the club races." Any objection to a competitor who has entered must be made before the race, and his claim to run will be decided by the committee. Further particulars will appear in due course.

SKATING AND ATHLETIC EXERCISES.—A place of very healthy recreation has been opened at "the Archway," near the pier at the end of Villiers-street, Strand, in which skating on the "wheel principle" presents the most interesting feature. A hall of some 36 feet in width, and upwards of 200 feet in length, has had a very level wood floor laid down; and although those who have enjoyed the delightful gliding motion of a good "Fen" (Lincolnshire) skate, at some 15 miles an hour, could not tolerate the laborious and unpossess running of a set of wheels on such a surface, yet the attendance of a very large number of amateurs on Saturday evinced the desire which the youth of the metropolis have to indulge in healthful exercise. The hall throughout the day was crowded, and from the way in which the visitors enjoyed themselves there is little doubt that the place will become a popular one. The hall has the advantage of being brilliantly illuminated.

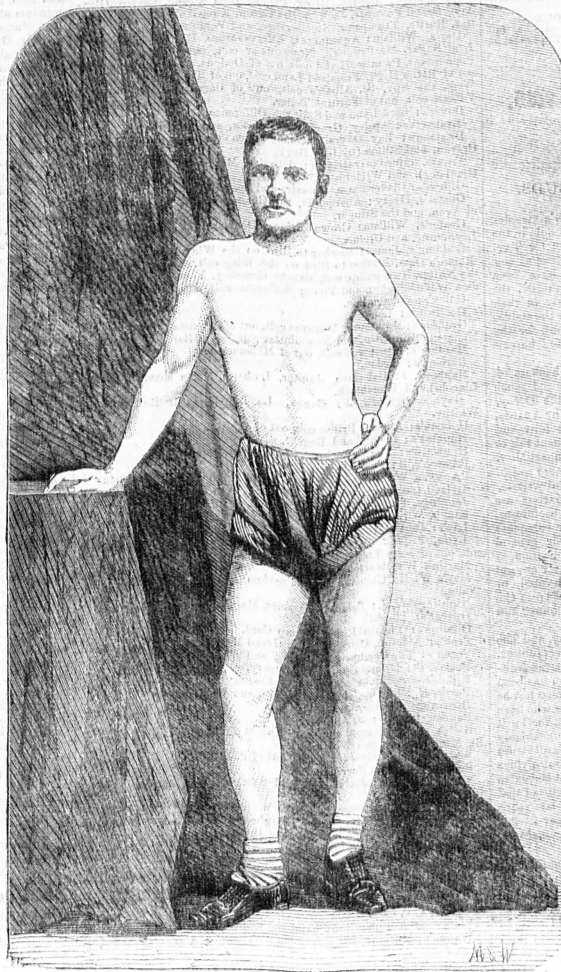
## WRESTLING.

### MANCHESTER.

COPENHAGEN GROUNDS.—On Monday next, Teddy Lowe of Whitworth, near Rochdale, and Henry Counsel (alias Barty), of Bury, meet here to decide their long pending and exciting contest, the best of 3 back-falls, catch as catch can for £50, neither to exceed 6 score 15lb. £25 a side has been placed in Mr. Hayes' hands, and the final deposit must be placed in his hands and the men to weigh at 9 o'clock and enter the ring at 11.

CITY GROUNDS.—The match to wrestle 2 out of 3 back-falls Lancashire style, between J. Massey, of Ashton, and T. Parkinson, of Clifton, for £50, takes place here on New Year's Day. To commence at half-past 2 o'clock. Stakeholder, Mr. James Holden, White Lion, Long Millgate, Manchester.

HUNTING CHARGER.—Mr. Cresgee Colmore has announced his intention of giving up the Cottingham Grounds; and the present season will terminate Mr. T. Drake's Mastership of the Bicester country.



GEORGE TOPLEY, the Great Pedestrian.

Westhall's Great Feat surpassed.—Twenty-one miles, fair walking, in 1 minute 15 seconds under Three Hours.

Halcy.

## Theatrical and Musical.

### SUMMARY OF THE WEEK.

ADJUTANT. The production of a new farce, serving to reintroduce Mr. J. L. Toole upon his return from the provinces, marks the only change in the performances at this theatre, which is still nightly filled by audiences attracted to see the extraordinary acting of Mr. J. Joffe.

MAN. Of the new piece and of Mr. Toole's reception we shall report in another column.—LYCEUM: The new romantic drama of "The Master of Ravenswood," noticed elsewhere, has been thought by the management to be a success for the Christmas holidays, and we have little doubt that it will prove to be so.—PARNASSUS: For the first time since he has been manager of this theatre, Mr. George Vining opened his house on Boxing night without a special holiday entertainment, relying on the still popular "It is never too late to Mend."—OLYMPIA: At this theatre a Christmas extravaganza has for some time past been undisturbed, but in consequence of the attractiveness of "Henry Dunbar," no alteration is likely to be made in the bill for week to week.—LYONS: The "L'Africain," which has remained undisturbed for the last two or three weeks past, is considered sufficiently enticing for the holiday season, and apparently justifying the statements of the management, as to the extraordinary success of Mr. Buranda's "L'Africain."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

After a sojourn in England of somewhat more than two years, Miss Bateman gave a farewell performance at this theatre on the Friday evening of last week, and took occasion to deliver a short valedictory address. She chose Shakespeare's Juliet as the character in which to make her last appearance. As it is understood that Miss Bateman, after performing for a short period in America, retires into private life, English criticism upon her latest performance is of course of great interest. The fact of her having taken final leave of the English stage is, in fact, as much to be called for by the event. With the exception of her Leah, Miss Bateman has no triumph to boast; her Juliet certainly would not have served to increase her reputation, had she appeared in the character of Romeo's lover. In the tragedy, which she was assisted by Mr. F. Crompton, as Romeo, and Mr. A. Montrose, as Mercutio, and Mr. A. Lawrence, and Mrs. Henry Marston as the Nurse, Mr. T. William's comediotta of "Little Daisy" was played, introducing two clever younger sisters of Miss Bateman, apparently eleven, and twelve years of age. Miss Bateman then delivered the following address, which was several times interrupted by loud and loud cheering, and the singing of "God Save the Queen."

"I have a task to do and good bye to friends. Can you wonder that it is very difficult for me to utter—not the inflated woes of a stage heroine, but the earnest expression of what I feel in addressing, for the last time, an audience from whom I have received so warm a welcome and in such indulgent kindness that I shall always speak and think of you as friends? In every life I think on you as friends, and I shall think of you as friends in London and in exile. I have wished to record my deep indebtedness. In every place I have visited—Liverpool, Birmingham, Dublin, Glasgow, Manchester, Bath, and Bristol—the most liberal patronage, the most unequivocal success, has met me. But more than all, a social welcome, so genial, so heartfelt, that I forgot I was only a stranger and a sojourner, and have learned to associate with you as friends. I have been so fortunate as to have ever associated with so much generous kindness. I all probability I shall see them again no more. I return to my native country—to that public that first cherished my dawning abilities, to the scene which early association has endeared to me. But the joyous thought of my welcome does not overshadow the deep sadness of my farewell. My grateful thinking of you, and the remembrance of the kindness that I have received, is the quiet bond of home life to which I look forward at the close of my dramatic career, I shall think of you very, very often. For I am sure there are those here to-night whose faces I have never seen, who good good wishes will go with me to my distant home. Some of you will wish like America for my sake. I shall always love England for you sake. Like you I say, 'God bless you, I mean, with my people. Like her, also, I say, 'God bless you. Good-bye.'"

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.

It cannot be gratifying to the Directors of the Italian Opera House to find their chief success in the Pantomime which they have superadded to their operatic programme; if they find, however, that the production of this kind of entertainment is necessary to guard their exchequer from too great a loss on the trading of their season, we can only wish that they had not encountered the need of resorting to such a means as the public would rather have seen abolished than to such a low class of entertainments, there is no denying; and at Covent Garden, now as of old, when more "legitimate" performances were nominally given, they may be certain of witnessing a show at once gorgeous and beautiful in the Christmas piece annually produced by the English Opera Directors. This year they have gone to Mr. E. L. Blanchard, the leader of our pantomime writers, who has furnished them with a new and original plot. The subject selected for treatment is to be wrought by the combined efforts of a troop of cunning artists, each excellent in his, or her domain of art. The subplot selected for treatment is the oft-treated "Aladdin, or the Wonderful Lamp," dear to readers of Galland's "Arabian Nights" and it has been handled with great skill by Mr. E. L. Blanchard, who has adapted his design so as to make it embrace the purpose of calling into play the enormous resources of the modern stage. It is a drama, a comedy, a panto-mimic, chorographic, and musical. He has worked with abundance well as skilful, and the result—though it may not correspond with that of last seasons' spectacle, which owed so much of its popularity to the dancing of Donato!—will, we can hardly doubt, justify the Directors for the numerous expenditures they have incurred in placing his picture before the public as perfectly as possible. The story of the "Arabian Nights" is followed by the tale of Aladdin, and thus it is introduced. Specially born by Mr. H. J. Byron, in his well-remembered burlesque. Substituting Miss Rachel Sagar for Miss Maria Wilton, the Aladdin of the Pantomime is not vastly unlike in complexion the Aladdin of the burlesque—a scapegrace, saucy, but yet graceful and winning gemin, for whom the loving affection of his widowed-mother is pouring forth all its power. To say less of the character of the Prince Mr. W. H. Payne, is—at all events worth mentioning. The Aladdin-pantomime—equal to saying that he is darkly, deeply, quintessentially, the most magic-like of magicians. In the first scene we are introduced to the cavernous abode of this great personage, who learns from the "great Djin" Boileau (Mr. Lugham), whom he has summoned by his formulae by the aid of his "wonderful lamp," of the existence of the "Wonderful Lamp," which he is forbidden to seize with his own hands, the feast being reserved for "poor and friendless youth," in search of whom he at once sets out, and whom he finds in the person of Aladdin in the following scene. This scene introduces us to a surprisingly bright, bustling, and altogether fairy-story-like picture of street-life in Canton. Aladdin is playing with a crowd of street boys, flying kites, battling with schoolboys, and is crowned after various diversions themselves. A young woman presents him with a ring, which she tells him (Mr. Charles Steyne), as the brother of her late husband, and wishes him to go for the purpose of making him a cat's paw in the seizure of the magic lamp. This scene also serves for the exhibition of a splendid ballet, the principal performers of which are M. Desplaces, by whom all the dances have been arranged, and Milles Deuchant, Montero, and Paucaldi, who were applauded loudly, a *pas seul* by M. Desplaces.

being honoured with an enthusiastic *encore*. Then follows the scene of the enchanted cavern, in which there is a farther exhibition of dancing by the Millas Borelli and Carey, and a crowd of corymbes and male dancers, whose tasteful dresses and ingenious evolutions produce a charming effect on the beholder. Here Aladdin, by the help of a dumb slave named Kazrac (Mr. Fred. Payne), a creature of the magician, who betrays his master and attaches himself to the adventurous youth, the magic is secured. How Aladdin falls suddenly in love with the Princess Badroula (Miss Blackstone), and marries her, and how Abanaka goes into the lamp, and enters the palace of the young couple, may be transported on the shoulders of a mighty effort, must be soon to be realised. The flying palace is really a wonderful piece of scenic and mechanical contrivance, almost sufficient in itself to make the success of the pantomime; but nothing to the final scene, in which, after the magician has been overthrown by the superior powers of the Genins of the Ring, Aladdin's bride is restored to him, and he is left in the possession of his kingdom, and his wife and his children, and his lambs. Hardly any written description of the T. G. Brien's magnificent "Transformation Scene" could do justice to its brilliancy and beauty; it is one of those developing scenes of which the changes mount from surprise to surprise, and has, possibly, never been surpassed for the largeness of its combinations and the splendour of its general effect. In the harlequinade which follows, Mr. Fred. Payne is the Harlequin, Miss Ella the Columbine, Mr. Harry Payne the Clown, and Mr. Harry Hering the Clown. There are several good songs in this part of the entertainment; and the music by Mr. J. W. McManery is capital of its kind. The Royal English Opera Pantomime is, beyond doubt, a great success.

## HAYMARKET

The reception given to Mr. Sothern on his return to this theatre on Tuesday evening was enthusiastic to the extreme, and his performance of Dundreary's almost equally popular Brother Sam, was applauded as loudly as if the character had been entirely new to the audience. The novelty of the evening was a version by Mr. J. R. Planché of the now well-known "Orpheus aux enfers" of the Bouffes Parisiens, introduced in dramatic form for the first time in this country, and called "Orpheus in Hell." At the same time, the new musical comedy Offenbach, to which the theatre has just given access, the opera in France and Germany is mainly due, has long been popular, and, even with all allowances made for shortening in the way of execution by the singers of the Haymarket place, there is every probability that the complete piece will be as much relished as the morosaux given at the Oxford and Canterbury Halls have been. While closely following the libretto of the French dramatist, M. Hector Crémieux, Mr. Planché may claim the merit of entire originality for his libretto; he has not only "ram" the original prose "into rhyme," but he has carried it throughout with a grace and a sense of the most polished and refined wit, and it may be accepted as one of the most polished and elegant of his pieces. He has accomplished a very difficult task of wedding English words to the sparkling music of the famous composer with extraordinary success, and has retained nearly the whole of the original

Before the action of the drama commences, Public Opinion, adorned with a golden halo, and personated with grace by Miss Helen Howard, appears before the curtain, and announces the part he intends to play. When the curtain is raised, the opening scene introduces the audience to the matrimonial relations of Orpheus and his wife, Eurydice, which are highly reprehensible—the lady openly admitting her preference for the charming Aristens, a dealer in snuff, (Miss W. M. W.), who has just been introduced by the same actress (Mrs. Bartleman), who has views of his own concerning matrimony, throws her into a comic-trance and carries her off to Hades, whither she is followed, by permission of the gods, by Orpheus, on the well-known condition that he shall not look back after he has induced his wife to follow him. Jupiter, who is also smitten with the charms of Eurydice, follows in company with the other Olympian deities to the Shades, where matters are further complicated by the jealousy of Juno, who, as we see, is more than a backward look has in the eyes of her husband. Orpheus, wife, Jupiter, parents, and in the last scene, the Thracian King, Bacchus, the husband and wife are reunited, and all the characters give themselves up to the delights of wine. The execution of the vocal music, though far from perfect, is sufficiently good to render Offenbach's composition without much injustice to its composer, and the audiences who will hear it a week hence, will then be given to greater advantage than it was given to the public at the first performance. The singing of the tenor, who is playing specially qualified him to sustain the part, was the Orpheus and played with point and effect.

Miss Annie Kealey, with her bird-like and almost too fluent voice, was the Eurydice. The other characters, Jupiter, Juno, Venus, and Cupid, were represented by Mr. William Warren, Miss Snowdon, Miss Nelly Moore, and Miss Ellen Woolgar, her first appearance. All acquitted themselves ably, and helped to secure the success of what ought to be secured a favourite exchange, which proved itself quite equal to the large demand made upon it; nor of the extremely graceful scenery, by Messrs. O'Connor and G. Morris.

ST. JAMES'S.

A pantomime at the St. James's is about the last thing we might expect Miss Herbert to produce—nevertheless, that is exactly what she has produced for a Christmas novelty: a veritable pantomime, in which Mr. Frank Matthews plays the Clown, Mr. F. Charles the Harlequin, Miss Collinson the Fairy, and Mr. F. Robson the Pantaloon! The entertainment is not precisely a new one—it is, in fact, a very old one, retouched for the occasion by Mr. John Oxenford and Mr. S. Remden; but it serves almost as well as if it had been brand-new. It is entitled, "The Fairies of the Grotto, or the Mungers in a Fix." The story is supposed to take place in a grotto, and the title of the play is a novelty for Christmas. All the places are suggested to her by her stage-manager, but none appear to be promising. In this dilemma, the actors agree, with more or less good grace, to "put their shoulders to the wheel," and the result is that they find themselves engaged in the rehearsal of a play which, as we have said, is not a new one. The rehearsal of the opening and of the plot is about as above the level of such productions, and told with good effect on the Boxing-night audience. There are three or four charming scenes by Mr. F. Grievé and Son—the first, a view of Margate Sands, and the last a reprieve—"transformation scene"—with the usual "hills." The scenery is, on the whole, good. Mr. Frank Matthews is a very light and pleasant, and, combined with good acting and beautiful scenery, helps to make as cheerful a close to the evening's performance as could reasonably be desired by a holiday audience. The "School for Sanitism," in spite of its members of acting, is a decided success, in the bill for some weeks.

LYCEUM

A most enthusiastic reception was given to the new version of Sir Walter Scott's "Bride of Lammermoor," produced on Saturday evening last, under the title of "The Master of Ravenswood." While taking into account certain details, both in the construction of the piece and in the treatment of the characters, the play is M. Fechter's, and does not for a moment attempt to accord on heavy drama to the adapter and to the actor. It is a very long time since—with the one exception of "Arria on Pegasus"—a romantic drama of such deep and sustained interest has been presented on the London stage. To those who have studied the acting of M. Fechter, the character of the Master of Ravenswood appears one which is specially adapted to render powerful emotion except in the earlier scenes of the play, like the "sullen" aspect of the character, which is not in the least in accordance with the dramatic advantage. What he fails to realize is the "sullen" aspect of the character described by Sir Walter Scott, "the brooding spirit of some moody passion," which had "quenched the light and im-

nous vivacity of youth in a countenance singularly fitted to display such a description of Edgar's appearance applies, we might almost fancy that he had not read the novel. The part that the storm plays in the presentment of the character is finely dramatic and emotional, and tells with irresistible effect upon the sympathies of his audience. As adapted by Mr. Palgrave Simpson, the story is represented in nine tableaux, no salient feature of the novel being missed. The tragic catastrophe of the "Bride of Lammermoor" is, of course, totally unfitted for stage representation, and a new catastrophe has been invented, therefore. As the ending of the drama Edgar saves the lives of Lucy and her father, by shooting the wild bull which was on the point of destroying them. Then follows the declaration of mutual love, and the plighting of a solemn troth, in spite of the warnings of the blind old peasant woman, Alice, and of the portentous incident of the raven falling dead at their feet, passing disaster to all of the House of Ravenswood. In the next scene, however, the storm is forced to fight with the impetuous Bucklaw, disarms him as he descends the stairs, and the castle is partly-ruined and wholly in the desolate Hall of the Castle of the Wolf's Crag. Here, overtaken by a storm, Lucy is brought by her father for shelter. Edgar salutes the daughter of his foe, and the castle is shaken to its foundation by a thunder clap. To have been in consonance with the legendary spirit of the drama, the act should have ended here; but it is lamented injuriously, it seems to us, that the storm is not so dramatically incident, altogether unwarranted by the novel—the defence of the castle by Ashton against the onset of a party of Jacobites, led by Bucklaw, and the death of Edgar had been partially lessened. Become a guest of Sir William Ashton, Edgar is banished with insult on the arrival of the imperious Lucy Ashton, and receives the written promise of her hand from Lucy. Then follows the forced marriage with Bucklaw, the arrangements of which are interrupted by the return of Edgar, and the storm is again called upon. From this point the storm is called upon to be obliged to depart from the original. Led involuntarily by the spirit of old Alice, who has suddenly died, Edgar follows on the steps of the bridal party and reaches the chapel of Ravenswood Castle in time to bear Lucy off insensible from the steps of the altar. He flies with her to the sea-shore, at the foot of the Wolf's Crag. For a moment her reason returns; she recognises her lover, and then falls senseless again. The bridal party reach the spot, only to see Edgar rush with his arms outstretched to the fatal rocks, and sink. The storm is again called upon to assist, and a bursting thunder storm, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Thomas the Rhymer:

"When the last Laird of Ravenswood to Ravenswood shall ride,  
And woo a dead maiden to be his bride,  
He shall stable his steed in the Kelpie's Flow  
And his name shall be lost for evermore."

The penultimate line of which is altered by Mr. Palgrave Simpson into

"He shall find his last bed in the Kelpie's Plow." To Mr. Fechter, as Edgar, and Miss Carlotta Lesclercq, as Lucy Ashton, the chief honors of this performance are due. Miss Lesclercq plays with a breadth and intensity that exceeds all she has hitherto displayed. Her portrayal of the mute suffering under which her mind at last gives way, is a piece of exquisite acting, and was greeted, as it deserved to be, with enthusiastic applause. The Caleb Balderstone of Mr. S. Buxey is an admirably drawn character, completely the devoted old servant—at once his moral and his pathetic—of the novel. Mr. Hermann Vezin, as the old blind beggar, is wonderfully well fitted to render to the full the seapagoesque devil-may-care character of the original. In the character of Craventell some liberties have been taken by the adapter, and more by the actor, Mr. H. Widdicombe, for the purpose of making a comic part; no harm is done by this, and the end thoroughly attained. Mr. G. Jordan plays Sir William Ashton with quiet force, the strong-minded Lady Ashton being rendered by her with authority and sympathy. The important character of the old blind beggar, Alice, is excellently well acted, with striking power; and, as the whole, the other minor characters are well sustained. Throughout the piece the grouping of the characters has been arranged with admirable taste and pictorial skill. Of the scenery, painted by Mr. T. Griese, we may fairly say that it is beautiful in the extreme, one scene at least—the Kelpie's Plow—surpassing in grandeur and truthfulness to nature any we have ever seen. The orchestra, too, did its best, and every talented principal performer was called—in several cases twice—on, and, in conclusion of the piece, the announcement of its repetition was received with unmitigated enthusiasm.

## NEW ROYALTY.

Compelled suddenly, under circumstances to which we alluded some weeks back, to substitute *Phaon*, or "the Man on the Rock," for the advertised burlesque of "Sapho," or "the Woman on the Rock," by Mr. F. C. Burnard, the manager of this theatre may be congratulated on the really good makeshift he has been able to produce. It is the work of Mr. R. Roeco, and was received with unmistakable favour by the audience assembled to try its merits on boxing night. Constructed on the most approved plan of "classical burlesque," the piece is not deficient in any of the more important regards of grace, liveliness, and variety. Its puns are not of that wilfully tortured kind so much familiar by the theatre, but are such as to offend neither Burnard, they are, however, by no means want in number or wanting in smartness of turn, and they find smart utterance on the lips of Miss Fanny Reeves and Miss Lydia Matland, who sustain the prominent parts of Prometheus and Apollo. How it came to pass that Prometheus offended Jove and got chained to a crag of Mount Caucasus, with an eagle set to pick at his vitals continually, is a matter of far less consequence to the audience, for the same part, than that of Jove should be sustained by the comedian, for the manager of the New Royalty burlesque, by Miss Nelly Barton, and that the rest of the Olympian court are pleasant to see and otherwise amusing company; therefore it does not matter one pin whether it was really Pandora, or, according to Mr. Roeco, Uotis, the mother of Prometheus, who visited him on his rock with a box from which escaped all the "ills that flesh is heir to," the abused lid only keeping back "hope." With or without warrant to the managers, Uotis, as represented by Mr. Bentley, is one of the funniest characters in the piece, and she, too, becomes as it were, one with the warranty of Ecchylus himself to introduce Miss Fanny Reeves, in a line of business new to her as far as we know, played the character of Prometheus with a great deal of force and sang, as was to have been expected, better than the run of burlesque actresses. She danced also with great spirit. As Apollo, Miss Lydia Matland is as dashing as ever she has been in the New Royalty burlesque, and her name is associated; we only regret that the audience should have been allowed to hear her utter a few words of greater part of the piece, a totally unnecessary and piece of vulgarity. The scenery by Mr. H. Cuthbert, is extremely bright and pretty, and was deservedly applauded. Altogether, this burlesque, produced under disadvantageous circumstances, is highly creditable to all concerned, and will prove, we fancy, attractive for many weeks to come.

## EFFINGHAM.

"Harlequin King Peewit and His Merry Little Men; or, Red Beard the Terrible and the Enchanted Fairies of the Silver Doll." The pantomime at this house in the far east, has, as usual, had much care bestowed upon it; and the result is proportionately satisfactory. Mr. Smithers is a practiced scenic artist, and upon the present occasion he has drawn upon all his resources.

(Continued on Page 678.)

AQUATICS.

THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL MATCH BETWEEN KELLEY AND HAMILL.

The *New York Clipper* of the 10th inst., which we have just received, inserts Kelley's reply to the challenge of Hamill, the American Champion. We are not at present in possession of Hamill's answer, but trust that he will accept one or more of the races proposed by Kelley, the purport of whose reply was worded as follows:—

"Harry Kelley, of Putney, has read in the *New York Clipper* a challenge from James Hamill, which he has far accepted, as follows:—That Harry Kelley will row James Hamill five miles straight ahead on one day, and two miles and one half to a stake-boat and two miles and one-half return on the following day, for £250 each race; or he will row Hamill five miles straight ahead only, or two miles and one half to a stake-boat and two miles and one-half return, for £250. The race or races must come off over the English Championship Course, on the river Thames, between Putney and Barker's rails, and Kelley will allow Hamill £100 for his expenses of visiting this country. As a proof that Kelley is in earnest, he has already staked £250 to make a notice on the above conditions. If this offer be not accepted, Kelley does not wish for more paper war, and he will not, therefore, take further notice of any future challenge emanating from Hamill."

The *New York Clipper* endeavours to find fault with Kelley's very reasonable offer, and comments as follows:—"Without wishing to influence Hamill in any way, we would remark that not only does Kelley decline to row Hamill in this country, but he does not accept the latter's offer, as made, to row in England. It will be seen from Hamill's card that, in agreeing to row the match in England, he (Hamill) stipulated that he should be allowed the privilege of choosing the course there. This, it will be seen, Kelley altogether ignores, and makes it an express condition, before he will row Hamill even on British waters, that 'the race or races must come off over the English Championship Course, on the river Thames.' This, to say the least of it, is an unfair condition. Kelley knows every course in England; he understands the currents of each, the usual condition of the waters of

rowing stem and stem, but after leaving that place, Forrest drew away, and at the mile was three lengths in front, and won by five or six lengths. Brunel rowed very pluckily. The above two matches were rowed in Harry Clasper's open boats.

FOUR-OARED RACE.—The four-oared scratch race, among members of the Northern Rowing Club, was the next event, and most interest seemed to be attached to it. The distance was half a mile, and for the prizes of the club there were five crew entered. No. 1 and 2 crews came out for the first heat, and a very good race resulted in No. 1—William Smiles, J. Gallon, James Stephenson, and H. Olland; J. Gallon (cox.)—defeating their opponents—Messrs. James Wilson, Charles Smith, Edward Elliott, and William Watson; W. Barnett (cox.)—by a length. No. 3 and 4 then came forward for the second heat, and a splendid race resulted in No. 3 crew landing first by half a length. No. 4 crew led from the start, and appeared in every way likely to maintain their position to the finish, but when within 100 yards from home they were overtaken by No. 3, who pressed them, and won by the distance stated. No. 3 crew consisted of J. Blenkinsopp, George Wakelield, J. Best, and J. Baker; W. Brunel (cox.) and the fourth crew of Ben Forbes, T. Pape, Thomas Wilson, and R. West; W. Barnett (cox.). The 5th crew—R. Haddon, J. Roy, R. Cooper, J. Stobart, W. Brunel (cox.)—had a walk over; and for the next heat No. 1 and No. 3 crews were drawn together. They made a very good race, but No. 1 eventually got the advantage, and won by a very short distance. No. 1 and No. 5 crews then came together, and, as generally expected, No. 5 crew won almost as they liked.

YACHTING INTELLIGENCE.—The *Destiny* schooner has arrived at Malta from Ophthalos. The *Ariel*, Mr. John Arthur, one of the fleet of the Paris Regatta Society, gained two prizes during the past season, viz., at Argenteuil, May 21; and at Rouen, Aug. 6.

HENRY CLEMENTS, in reply to J. A. Oaffin's challenge, begs to state that as he never was in a match outrigger he cannot accommodate him, but he has a friend yolept Tom Wiese whom he will match to row Oaffin in match outriggers, from Putney to Mortlake, for £50, £100, or as much more as Oaffin can procure, either in spring, summer, autumn, or winter. A deposit to make this match always ready at either of his "boasting" houses.

appended, it will be seen that Mr. Wilson won, killing all: Mr. Archer taking second, killing five; while Messrs. S. S., Moore, John, and Williams tied for third prize, killing four each, and divided. Score:—

Yds rise.	Yds rise.
17 ... Archer..... 0 1 1 0 1 1	21 ... C. C..... 0 1 0 0 1 0
21 ... Gardner ... 0 0 1 0 1 1	20 ... Watkins ... 0 0 0
18 ... S.S. .... 1 1 1 0 0 0 1	21 ... Wilson ... 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
10 ... Tee ..... 0 1 0 1 0	20 ... Jelts ..... 0 0 1 0 1 0 0
21 ... Harfield ... 0 0 0 0	19 ... John ..... 1 1 0 1 0 1 0
19 ... Smythe ... 1 0 0 0 1 0	21 ... Moore ..... 0 1 1 0 1 0 1
17 ... Scott ..... 0 0 0	21 ... Baban ..... 0 0 0 0
19 ... White ..... 0 0 0 0	19 ... West ..... 0 0 1 0 0
21 ... Dunn ..... 0 0 0 0	19 ... Headell ... 1 0 0 1 0 1 0
20 ... Edwards... 1 1 1 0 0 0 0	19 ... Williams... 0 0 0 1 1 1 1
19 ... James ..... 1 0 1 0 0 0	

MANCHESTER.

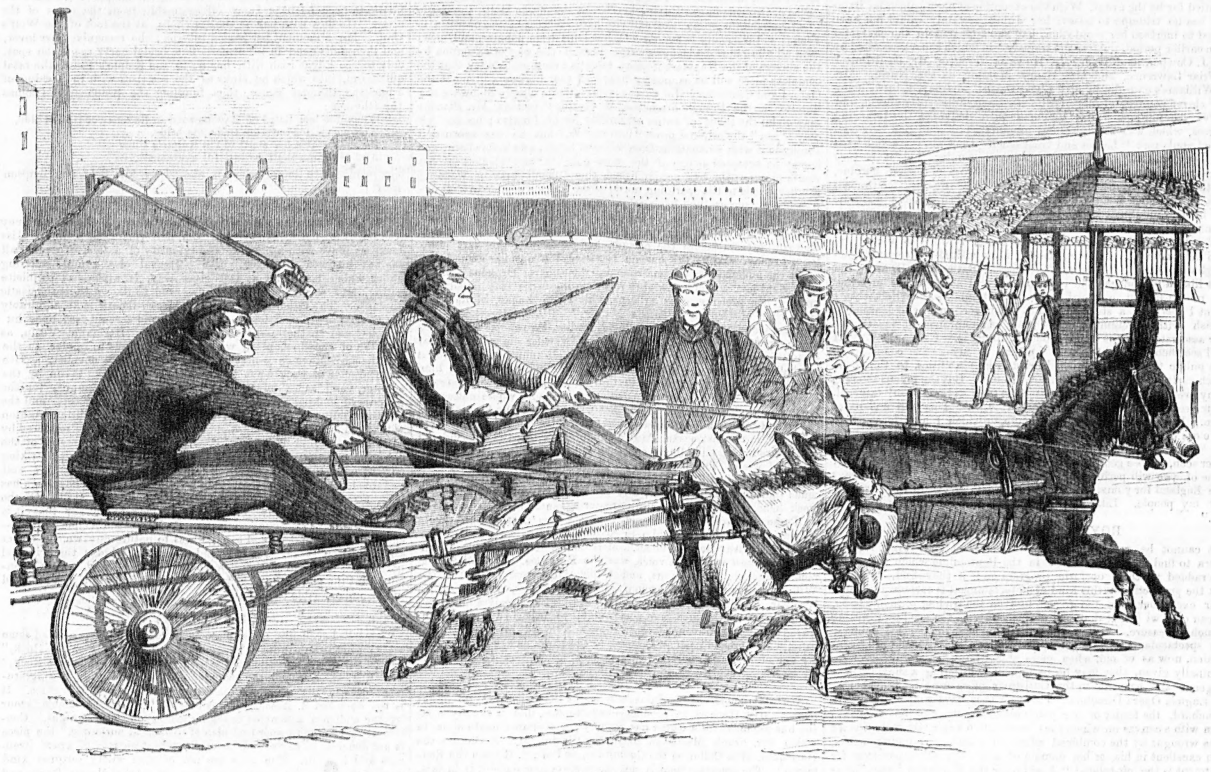
Two matches stand for decision at the Copenhagen-grounds, Manchester. J. Darbyshire of High, and T. Moor of Aspull, meet on New Year's Day to shoot at 15 birds each, for £20, commencing at one o'clock; and next Tuesday, J. Dewhurst, of Preston and J. Gaskell of Standish, shoot at 25 pigeons each, for £50; the first bird to be trapped at noon. Mr. Thomas Hayes is stakeholder.

BIRMINGHAM.

PIGEON MATCH.—A match was shot off on Friday, December 21, at Mr. Harding's Commercial Inn, Station-street, Walsall, between Mr. Collins (who recently won the Challenge Silver Cup), and Mr. Harding, the proprietor of the inn, for the cup and £25 a side, it being one of the articles that the winner of the cup should be open to all challenges for £20 and his prize, for twelve months. The conditions were 14x shot, Harding 21 yds rise, and Collins 20, and 69 yds boundaries, to shoot at nine pigeons each. Mr. Butler, of Prince's-end, stakeholder, was appointed referee. The score was as follows:—

Collins.....	0 0 0 0 1 1 1—3
Harding.....	1 1 0 1 1 1 1—6

Collins' chance being out the contest was not pursued.



NAPPER'S CELEBRATED MOKE, BLAKEY, winning the great race at Bow.

each, &c., while Hamill, on the contrary, knows nothing about them. In proposing to meet Kelley here, Hamill did not confine him to any named course, but offered him the privilege of selecting a course after his arrival here. Why could not Kelley have been equally liberal? Surely the advantages will be all in his favour, no matter where the race takes place. We do not know what Hamill may have to say to Kelley's proposal, as he is at present in Pittsburgh; it is probable that an answer may be given in next week's *Clipper*, until which time we shall defer any further remark upon the subject."

With reference to these remarks we can only repeat the old statement that the Championship of England—or rather, the world—is and always has been rowed upon the Thames, and that the course is the best that could be found. Why a great race of this kind should come off at Newcastle or elsewhere while the Thames is ready for the purpose we are unable to imagine. As to Kelley's superior knowledge of the river Thames, Hamill, when he comes, will doubtless find a trust-worthy native both able and willing to put him up to all the specialities of the course, as Kelley himself did to Green when that colonial aspirant came here to row Chambers. We hope to hear by next mail news of Hamill's acceptance of Kelley's conditions, and that the match is likely to progress satisfactorily.

AQUATICS ON THE TYNE.

On Christmas Day there were no less than three private matches at an early period of the forenoon, and these, coupled with a four-oared scratch race by the members of the Northern Rowing Club, proved a much greater attraction than we were led to anticipate.

WILKO V. BARN.—The first of the matches took place a few minutes before nine o'clock, and was between Martin Wilko, of Newcastle, and William Smith, of Dunston, who pulled from the High-level Bridge to Watson's Gates, a distance of one mile, for £5 a side. Smith led from the start, and by pursuing an even course on the north side for the first half-mile, got so far ahead that the remainder of the distance proved a mere walk over, and he won by half-a-dozen lengths.

BRUNEL V. FORREST.—The second race was between Thomas Brunel and Benjamin Forrest, both of Newcastle, who met to row two miles for a similar amount. Brunel, who is sixteen years of age, got the north side. To the *Skinner* Burs there was a capital race

SHOOTING.

HORNSEY WOOD.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23.—The proprietress, Mrs. St. ones, in inaugurating the Christmas sports, liberally presented a £5 note to be shot for, added to a sweepstakes of 10s. each, but the attendance was not by any means so large as might have been expected, nor the number of shooters either; still, thirteen entered to contend for the prize, the conditions being five pigeons each, from five traps (handicap), 14x of shot, use of both barrels. The second, however, was almost useless, for the smoke hung so that, after the discharge of the first barrel, the bird could scarcely be seen, thus allowing several to get away. The money was divided into three prizes of £7, £3, and £1 10s., and after a keen contest, Messrs. Berkley Gardner, and Moore divided. Three handicaps, at three birds each, were also shot, Captain Welcomes taking the first and third, Mr. Beckley the second. Score:—

Yds rise.	Yds rise.
25...Mr. Berkley ..... 1 0 1 1 1 0	...1 1 1 0
25...Mr. Wilson ..... 0 1 0	...1 1 0 0
20...Mr. Free ..... 0 1 1 0 0 0	...1 0
25...Captain Welcomes ..... 1 0 1 0	...1 1 1 1 1
25...Mr. Preston ..... 0 1 0	...1 1 0 1 0
25...Mr. Gardner ..... 1 0 1 1 1	
27...Mr. Smythe ..... 0 1 1 0	
27...Mr. Moore ..... 1 1 1 1 0	
25...Mr. S. S. .... 0 0 0	
25...Mr. White ..... 0 1 1 1 0	
24...Mr. Harris ..... 0 1 0	
24...Mr. G. G. .... 0 1 0 1	
23...Mr. James ..... 1 0 1 0	

A large gathering took place on Tuesday to witness the shooting for a handsome gold watch, given by Mrs. Stone, added to a sweepstakes of 1s. each, to be divided into second and third prizes. Twenty-one entered to contend, and were handicapped from 21 to 17 yards rise, the conditions being seven sparrows each, 14x of shot, double guns, the use of one barrel only. The birds supplied by Barber were very good, making the score much below the average. From the return

A Crown Sweepstakes followed, by seven competitors, to shoot at three pigeons each, who were handicapped with the following results:—

Yds.	Yds.
21. Mr. J. Harding .....	1 1 1—1 1
21. Mr. W. Nure.....	1 1 1—1 0
19. Mr. J. Collins.....	1 1 0
21. Mr. Bennett.....	0
18. Mr. Butler .....	0
17. Mr. Woodhall .....	0
17. Mr. W. Harding.....	0

Messrs. Harding and Nure shot admirably, and having made a tie, agreed to shoot third bird, when Mr. Harding's star was again in the ascendant.

A NEW YEAR'S GIFT TO BE SHOT FOR.—On Monday, January 1, at Mr. E. W. Jewison's, Pike and Anchor Taverns, Ponders' End, Middlesex, a fine home-bred fat pig, value £5, will be given, free, to be shot for by an unlimited number of shooters; the winner can receive the pig or money. The shooters will be handicapped according to merit, from 19 to 27 yards, at five pigeons each, double guns, the use of one barrel. Hoof, shot, 80 yards boundary, H and T traps. Shooting at one o'clock precisely. Hammond supplies birds. Trains leave Shoreditch at 9.30, 10.30, and 12.30.

A FAT PIG TO BE SHOT FOR.—Mr. J. Hallon, Sportsman Inn, Newtown, Leeds, will give a 20 stone pig to be shot for by members, at 10s. each, on Monday, January 1, at three birds each. The entries, to be made as above, will remain open till twelve o'clock on the day; first bird to be trapped at one. The winner can have the pig or £10. Plenty of best blue rocks on hand.

RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, WALSALL.—On Friday last, the match between Messrs. Harding and Collins, to shoot at nine pigeons each, or a beautiful chamois silver challenge cup (originally given by the former gentleman, and last week won by the latter, after a spirited contest with a number of the crack shots of the district) attracted a large and influential attendance. The conditions were—10x of shot, Mr. Harding's bird to have 21 yards' rise, and Mr. Collins's 20 yards, 60 yards boundary. In addition to the cup, the match

was for £15 a-side. Soon after two o'clock, an adjournment was made to a field hard by, and Mr. Collins having won the toss at once aimed his gun, but his bird, a clipper, got away with "flying colours," as did his three next. Mr. Harding, more fortunate, dropped his two first, missed the third, and scored the four next, thus winning the match as subjoined:—

Mr. Collins .....	0 0 0 1 1 1—3	
Mr. Harding .....	1 1 0 1 1 1—6	
<p>Mr. Butler, Prince's End, Tipton, was referee. Betting opened at 6 to 4 on Harding, but, after the first two birds, any reasonable odds were obtainable. Following the above, a crown "sweep" was entered into by seven competitors. At three birds each. Score:—</p>		
Yds' rise.		Yds' rise.
21...Mr. J. Harding.....	1 1 1—11	18...Mr. Baker..... 0
21...Mr. W. Nuro.....	1 1 1—10	17...Mr. Woodhall..... 0
19...Mr. J. Collins.....	1 10	17...Mr. W. Harding..... 0
21...Mr. Bennett.....	0	

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—On Thursday and Friday last, the tenants on the Chippenham estate enjoyed, by the kind permission of Morgan Vane, Esq., the lessee of the manor, two excellent days' partridge shooting. Birds were very plentiful, and the result of the two days' sport was a bag of 113 brace, which were distributed among the farmers and tradesmen in the village. The squire joined two parties on the second day, and, with his usual liberality, sent a supply of sherry and cigars, to which ample justice was done by the sportsmen, and many and hearty were the wishes expressed for the happiness and continued residence amongst them of himself and his amiable lady.

CURIOUS RIFLE MATCH.—There has been a curious rifle match in Canada. It was between four men, two of whom were abstainers from liquor, and the temperance men vanquished their opponents by three points. This match has resulted in the following challenge:—"Ten men who partake of liquor and tobacco challenge an equal number of temperance men, who do not indulge in the use of tobacco, or, if these cannot be procured, the challenge is open to temperance men who smoke. This challenge is given by drinkers and smokers, who will be happy to contest the matter by receiving ten days' notice."

MESSRS. DAVIS AND DUFFON.—At the Victoria Club, on Thursday evening, Mr. George Davis and Mr. William Duffon played a match for £400, 1,000 up, the former gentleman receiving 120. After some brilliant play on both sides, Mr. Davis won by 120, the exact number of points given. The winner was in wonderful form, and played with consummate steadiness and coolness. Mr. Duffon was also great at times, but somehow or other the Fates were against him, and he missed pulling off some of the grandest coups when everyone, till the balls ceased rolling, thought success certain.

## HUNTING.

The once celebrated huntsman Tom Ball died last week. In early life he was with foxhounds, but his fame was at its height when he "hunted stag" for Baron Rothschild. For some years past he had kept an inn and hunting stables at Leighton Buzzard. Few men, if any, could beat him over the doubles of the Vale of Aylesbury, especially if he was on Grouse, Harkover, or King Pippin. The last-named was the hero of his celebrated sawp jump, and died under him one day, just as the hounds were laid on to their stag. His manner of throwing himself far back in his saddle when he took a fence was very peculiar. We believe that he was still under fifty, and it will be fully fifty years more ere his riding, either with hounds or in farmers' stoop-chaises, will be forgotten in the Vale.—*Illustrated News.*

## SHORT HINTS FOR CRICKETERS FROM THE ANTIPODES.

We have received our files of Sydney papers. As our own countrymen on the other side of the world are now in the height of the cricket season, we give the following excellent hints, extracted from *Bell's Life in Sydney*, which our cricketers at home may study over the Christmas fire, while their Australian brethren are enjoying the "noble game" on the green sward of their adopted country:—

to the other side, move into the line in which it will return, to be up and save an overthrow.

In fielding at leg and cover-point, remember that the ball has a spin, which, together with the original impetus, will cause it to break considerably.

Never make remarks about the accidents or mistakes of others.

Never, by word or gesture, appear to question the umpire's decision.

## BRIGANDESSES.

Here I discovered that five of the band were brigandesses. They were dressed exactly like the men, and their hair was cut short, the only peculiarity in their clothing being small boneless articles which I believe the ladies call corsets. They exhibited none of that sanguinary and savage character which I had always heard belonged to lady brigands. All five were part of the goods and chattels of their respective masters. They were considered all as the *ultima compagne* of the band; they had no share in ransom money, and were often beaten and ill-treated by their lords. Two of them carried guns, and the other three revolvers. Two were tall, fine, strong, young women, the third had a melancholy thin face, but the largest oval eyes I had ever seen; the fourth was an ugly sulky girl, who always appeared to refuse food or anything offered to her; and the fifth was very much like her. Doniella, the partner of Pepino Corino, the capo of the small band of eleven men, who had taken Don Francesco and his cousin Tommasino, was a strapping young woman of about nineteen years old, with a very good figure and handsome features, a pretty smile, and splendid teeth. She and her husband were both very greedy, and always managed to secure a double share of food, which made them very unpopular, and was eventually the cause of Pepino being deposed from his office of captain. She would sometimes give us comfort, but always refused us any of the extra share of food which she always had in her pocket. I often wondered how it was that she was generous enough to give me a capote or hood of blue cloth, which she did during our night's march of the 19th, but after six weeks I found out that it belonged to Corino, who, to my grief, came to claim it when his hand parted from



THE GREAT DONKEY RACE ON BOXING DAY.—Preparing for the start.

## BILLIARDS.

The second billiard handicap at the Peacock, Islington, of thirty-two members, at 6s. each, for a silver cup, was finished on Saturday evening. The following were the players:—

### FIRST DRAW.

Points.		Points.
T. Lay.....48	beat	J. Williams.....8
Summers.....30	"	M. Tipton.....35
J. Davis.....30	"	E. Davis.....14
Boyd.....44	"	W. Gilling.....0
Woody.....0	"	B. Wilder.....28
Parcoy.....55	"	G. Potts.....68
Low.....50	"	Groom.....0
Phillips.....40	"	Wiggins.....60
Parsons.....8	"	walked over
Marks.....18	"	walked over
Goodwin.....18	"	Corbett.....36
Dr. Simpson.....0	"	walked over
Simpson, jun.....18	"	Dorrell.....40
Stanboro.....38	"	Nichol.....20
T. Lucas.....32	"	T. Green.....20

The majority of the first round were well-contested games, and won only by one or two points, although odds were laid in several instances.

### SECOND DRAW.

Simpson, jun., beat T. Lay	Lucas beat Parcoy
Summers beat Marks	Woody beat Parsons
J. Davis beat Phillips	Low beat Dr. Simpson
Goodwin beat Boyd	Bristo walked over

### THIRD DRAW.

Summers beat J. Davis	Low beat Woody
Goodwin beat Simpson, jun.	Bristo beat Lucas

### FOURTH DRAW.

Summers beat Goodwin	Low beat Bristo
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### DECIDING HEAT.

Mr. Summers beat Mr. Low, and won the cup.

2 to 1 was laid on each in the course of the game.

## AT THE WICKET.

On going to the wicket, mark carefully the position of the field, so that you may know if there is a run the instant you strike the ball.

When at the bowler's wicket follow up the ball, but not before it leaves the bowler's hand; and also taking care not to advance beyond easy reach of your ground, in case the ball is played back.

Never run for a hit unless the run is called.

The proper person to call the run is the one who has to reach the wicket in danger—that is the striker for a hit in front of the wicket, the opposite player for a hit behind the wicket.

When once the run is called, there must not be the slightest pause or hesitation; you must never refuse to run unless prevented from starting by slipping or otherwise. A run can be made for almost any hit by fast runners who understand each other.

In running keep your own side; do not run past your wicket, but turn at once so as to be ready in case of an overthrow.

Never, by word or gesture, appear to question the umpire's decision.

## IN THE FIELD.

On crossing to your place, and when the bowler is about to deliver the ball, glance at the Captain for any direction he might have to give.

Carefully watch the play of each batter, and place yourself so as to defeat his favourite hits. You will thus save time and trouble to the Captain.

When the batter is in the act of striking, take a step forward, or in the direction the ball is likely to go. By this you overcome the inertia of your body, and lose no time in starting.

Never wait for a ball hit towards you along the ground. By dashing in and quick throwing, you may surprise the batter with an unexpected run out.

Never hold the ball, but return it to the nearest wicket immediately when fielded, if possible, with the same action.

Be careful to throw in the ball as straight as possible, and at the height of the balls. On the hop is only allowable from the long field, and then it must be a hop of at least a dozen yards.

If you are placed to save the one run, keep as far out as you can without allowing a stolen run for a slow hit.

Never interfere with another field; the nearest is the proper one to the field ball. Never run a race after a long hit. If the ball is hit

Manzo's. This capote was the greatest comfort at night. I always tied a cotton handkerchief which they gave me round my head, and then drew on his hood of double cloth hat over my face, keeping off all wind and wet. Carmina belonged to Giuseppe, a good-looking man, with red fussy hair of prodigious length; he was the dandy of the band, and had the reputation of being rich, that is, of possessing 4,000 ducats. Many wore the rings and gold chains on their persons and in their pockets, for a fella or some grand occasion was necessary to draw out of the little tin boxes that served them for jewel-cases the wealth they contained. Carmina was very good natured, and would nearly always give me any food she could spare. Maria was the sulky girl. She hardly ever spoke to anybody, and when they addressed her, a nod or a shake of the head was all the response she would deign to give; she would never give me anything, or do anything for me. Antonia was the blue-eyed damsel. She possessed a cheerful disposition, and was always willing to do anything she could do for me in the morning way. She attached herself to Giuseppe Salverra, who fully carried out the import of his name. Many a time, when food was very scarce, would these two share with me the little they had saved from the previous day. I considered that all was fair in war, and never lost an opportunity of securing whatever I could lay my hands on. Many a time I endeavoured to impress on them that as an Englishman, I required double the quantity that would suffice for them, but I regret to say that this had little effect, except in giving them the idea that I had an insatiable appetite. Concetta belonged to Cicco Guinago, and was very similar in disposition to Maria. All these women had about them needles, scissors, cotton, and silk of various hues, as well as bits of cloth, and they were always ready to do any repairs that were needed; and when a fresh supply of handkerchiefs (or maceators, as they were termed) arrived, they would all sit together, and steadily work away till they were done. During a thunderstorm they would always cease working—out of some religious feeling—and at every clap of thunder cross themselves. Sunday was the same as other days as regarded working. I tried to explain to them that they should rest from labour that day, but always without effect.

J. HETWOOD, (ROCHDALE), AND T. THREKELL, (DURHAM).—This 300 yards spin for £25 aside on Jan. 20, goes on all right. £20 each has been deposited with Mr. J. Holden, and the residue must be forthcoming to-day.



**GRANDER MUSIC HALL.**—Very well attended has this favourite repository been during the last six nights. The company, we understand, is up to the mark, but not having been able to hear them, we must, of course, refrain from criticism.

## HOW THE SALMON GROW.

At first, he is very shy, lying perfectly still under arches, growing; he is rarely visible to the naked eye before July, by which time he has become a parr, or fingerling, something like a small brook trout, but lighter in build, marked with a number of darker bars on his side. He now begins to rise at a fly, and to make a deadly bait for big river trout. We need not say that it is illegal to use him for this purpose, though it is a sore temptation when no bait is to be had but a rotten garvie. In this state, preserving a size of less than six inches (we once saw one on the river Teigo between eight and nine, but that is exceedingly rare), he remains for one or two years. But, after fourteen months, or else one year and fourteen months, counting from his hatching, a great change comes over him; his mottled sides become coated with bright silver scales, and he turns to all intents and purposes into a salmon of six inches long; he is now called a smolt in Scotland; in England a salmon, or collectively, salmon fry. He now in his little brain (oh mystery of mysteries!) feels that something must be done—that this pleasant summer weather, these sweet stone flies, and all must be left for unknown perils. He quits the pleasant stream, where he has been bred, and, heading seawards, is lost to human ken in the ocean. What he does there no man knows. With regard to this question, “How long does your smolt remain in the sea until he comes back a grilse of six to eight pounds?” the answer is, “Nobody knows.” You are allowed a latitude of twelve months. He either comes back in three months or in fifteen. However, he does come back, which is a great fact. Here he is at last, having felt along the coast until he got the taste of the highly-oxygenated land water in his gills; here he is, escaped from all the innumerable dangers of the deep sea, on the bar abreast of the town, waiting until the fresh water driving back the salt shall tell his queer concentrated little mind, dully, as in a dream of a foregone, half-forgotten life, yet surely too, that there is water enough over the shallowest bar to bear him up into the pleasantest old haunts, under the hazel and alder shadows, and that his love will meet him there. When the first flood comes down he goes up. Weighing six or eight pounds, he comes back duly, and works up stream; some have said as much as twelve miles a day; but to find out the truth of that, we must follow Mr. Russell's hint and send some one under water for six months. He goes scudding swiftly over the shallows and stickles, and panning, we believe, whole days in the pools and pits, during which time, either through sheer laziness, because he, like some others, labours under the impression that what is pleasant to the eye is certainly also good for food (this fancy of his certainly brings knowledge, but, as in the great case, too late), from some reason or another, he, during those rests of his, gets the habit, more fatally developed in later life, of snapping at, and trying to eat things apparently alive and organic, but which in reality are but mere Frankenstein monsters of shreds and



JOHN BRIGHTON, of Norwich, the once famed Four Miles Champion.

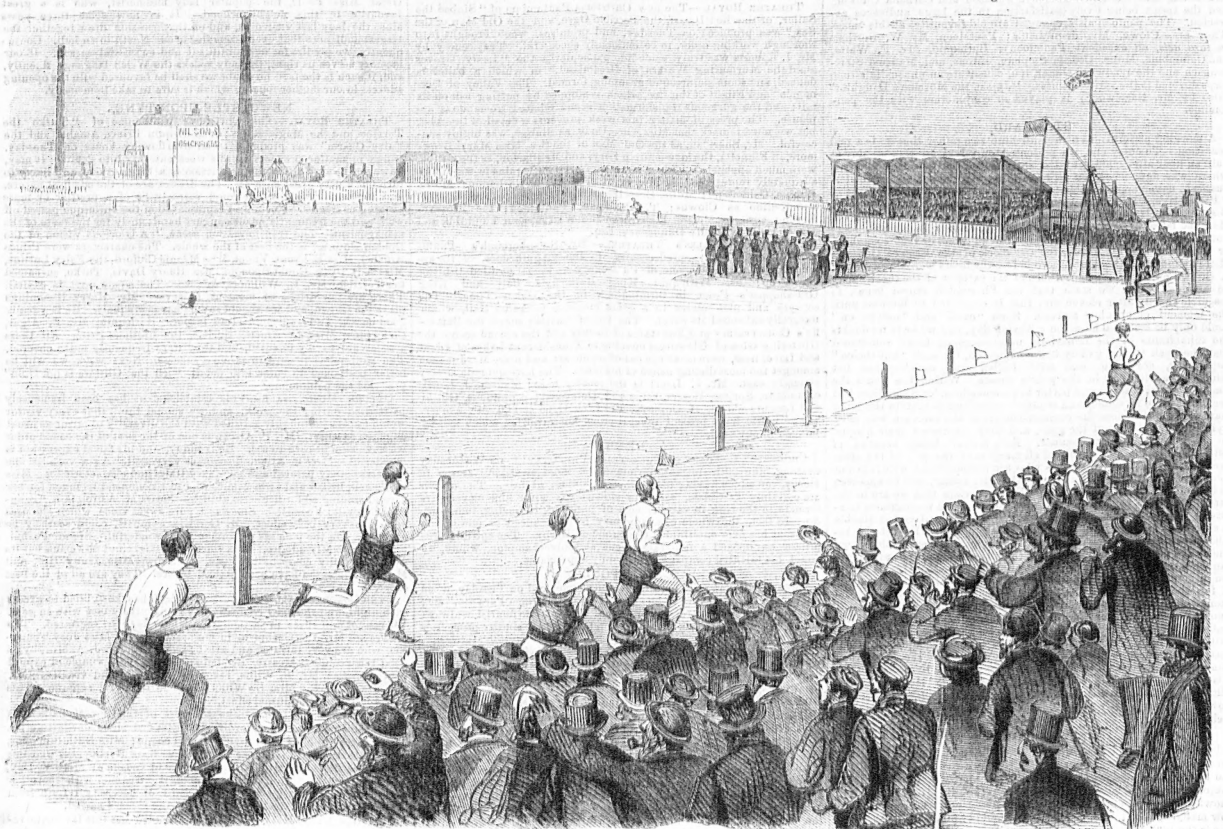
patches, made in certain streets in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, eidola of things which, as Mr. Paul Bedford would have said, some years ago, “I never have could.” These things are your salmon flies, the makers of which steer so singularly clear of the second commandment. But our grilse is but a grilse still. We must follow him as fast as we can. Change of air and diet become imperatively necessary. He goes to the seaside, and apparently stays there some six months. At the end of that time he comes up the river again, and weighs, as we think, twelve pounds off and on. He again goes through the gravel-roasting process, returns in a dilapidated condition to the sea, and once more appears in Tay, Garry, Shin, Tweed, Ichen, Avon, Dart, Teign, Severn, Blackwater, Shannon, Welsh Dee, Glaslyn, or wherever you will, in high health and strength, weighing somewhere near eighteen pounds.

**THE THAMES.**—Richard Stokes, of Brentford, fisherman, was fined by the Brentford Bench, on Saturday last, 40s. and costs for obstructing Melbourn, Coddery, and Morrison in the execution of their duty at Twickenham, on the morning of the 13th inst., between one and two o'clock. Being an old offender, and fine not paid, he was committed for one month.

**THE SALMON SPAWNING SEASON.**—PERTHSHIRE.—Spawning is well advanced on the upper waters. The season has been favourable, but there is a marked deficiency in fish, as compared with last year, no doubt in consequence of the extremely dry weather during summer and autumn. It is unquestionable that a kelt has now and again been killed. Blazing is now all but unheard of on the Perthshire rivers, and poaching of all kinds decidedly on the decrease.

**ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON.**—The experiments are still being continued for the stocking of Stormontfield breeding ponds. On Thursday week the boats were out, and at the confluence of the rivers Almond and Tay three shots were made, the result being the capture of twelve fish, four of them females. From these, 20,000 ova were obtained, and deposited in the brooding boxes, making altogether a total of 200,000 put into the ponds this season. There are at present upwards of twenty fish confined in a lair near the ponds for the purpose of ripening, and from these other 20,000 ova is expected, which will fully stock the ponds. At present all the rivers in the district are swarming with fish to a degree unknown for many years past. There is little or no poaching going on.

**MORTALITY AMONGST HARRIERS.**—A disease attended with extraordinary fatality has made its appearance among the fine pack of harriers belonging to Mr. S. Smith, of Down Farm, Oldham, Lancs. Notwithstanding the efforts made to check its ravages, it has already proved fatal to twenty-two of the finest animals in the pack, and it is said there is no apparent sign of its abatement.



THE PRINCE OF WALES RUNNING GROUNDS, BOW.



JAMES SANDERSON (TREBACLE),

The Champion Runner of England, who defeated Lang (The Crowcatcher); Brighton, of Norwich; Richards, the Welshman; Bob McKinty, the Scottish hero, at Hackney Wick, on Boxing Day, 1865.

by half a yard. 3rd heat, J. Morris, 18 yards, beat W. Bailey, 18 yards, easily. 4th heat, J. Lambert, 15 yards, walked over. 5th heat, Fred Wright, 16 yards, walked over. 6th heat, E. Cartwright, 18½ yards, beat J. Skeldon, 20½ yards, by 8 inches only. 7th

[illegible]



21b, 4s. 6d.; 51b., 1s.; 121b., 22s.; 241b. 40s. The 121b. and 241b. canisters  
carriage free on receipt of post-office order by Barry du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-  
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